

**Question for written answer E-000687/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Accusations of forced labour levelled against companies supplying seafood to the European institutions

The Outlaw Ocean Project journalist organisation has brought to light that, despite UN bans, predominantly North Korean women working in seafood processing plants in China are being subjected to forced labour, violence, sexual assault and captivity. Dalian Haiqing Food is one of the companies accused in the investigation. This company supplied foodstuffs to the Belgian firm Pittman Seafoods, which in turn supplies the Compass Group. The European Parliament has conducted an investigation and stated that it is 'confident that there is no link between the abovementioned company and Parliament's supply by its contractor'. Dalian Haiqing Food is one of the suppliers of Sysco France, which supplied the Commission's canteens in 2022 and 2023.

1. Has an investigation into using Sysco France as a supplier also been conducted by the Commission? If so, what are its findings?
2. The Outlaw Ocean Project has shown that forced labour exists and that it is difficult to trace. Supply chains can be opaque. What lines of accountability and monitoring tools has the Commission put in place to guarantee the reliability of suppliers?

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